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Sent: Friday, January 20, 2006 11:27 AM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: MLPAComments: Area and value index

You have asked for comments on the "area and value index".

First, I find this index to be very hard to understand, and I qualify my remarks accordingly.

Second, it appears to be saying that, for example, there is almost no fishing occurring in Elkhorn Slough. Since a veteran DFG warden told me of significant recreational angling that occurs there, that part of the index could not be accurate. As another example, the area off Cannery Row shows very little use, when I know there is kelp harvesting and recreational angling...in fact, this area shows less use than does the proposed Opal Cliffs MCA. I live right at Opal Cliffs, and I've got a pretty good idea of what goes on there, and I see very little extractive use of this area.

I'm not sure that this index will be that useful in understanding use patterns, let alone economic consequences.

Steve Scheiblauser